

PRESENT AND FUTURE OF INDOOR AIR QUALITY

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FOREWORD

Indoor air quality conservation and procedures for the measurement of related potential pollutants, such as radon, asbestos, gases, pesticides, tobacco smoke and bacteria from air conditioning systems, have seen important changes in recent years, while the range and the scope of the studies have continued to expand.

In addition to helping preserve public health, the field of interest is now extending to include such areas as architectural design, ventilation engineering, sociology, psychology and legal aspects. Related analytical techniques like gas chromatography and mass spectroscopy have undergone parallel refinements and their range of application has broadened.

These advances were discussed at the Conference 'Present and Future of Indoor Air Quality', held in Brussels, February, 1989, following symposia on indoor air quality at Essen and Tokyo in 1987 and London in 1988. The sessions were attended by about 200 scientists representing 20 countries. A total of 92 papers and posters were presented covering such topics as pathogenesis and epidemiology, sources of indoor air contamination and risk assessment, chemistry of indoor air related to the outdoor air quality, social and psychological aspects of poor indoor air quality, motivation and attitudes, future guidelines for the improvement of indoor air quality through architectural and ventilation design, and air quality monitoring.

The proceedings include full texts and posters presented during the meeting. The organising committee hopes that they will constitute a useful guide for the improvement of our indoor air quality in the future.

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